

BOROUGH OF HIGHAM FERRERS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the


Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1961



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.



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P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Members of the Highways, Health, and Lighting Committee :

COUNCILLOR E. G. TOMPKINS (Chairman), ALDERMAN R. W. KILSBY,
COUNCILLORS A. C. ALLEN, R. O. BLACKWELL, F. O. CHURCH, T. C.
OBERMAN, C. J. ROCKINGHAM, H. J. WOODALL.

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR A. W. C. KNIGHT, was an
ex-officio member.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District Council.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON

Public Health Inspector :

W. H. PLUMMER, M.P.H.I.A., A.M.Inst.H.E.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1961.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,945
Population 1931 (census)			...	...	...	...	...	2,928
„ 1951 (census)			...	...	...	...	...	3,681
„ 1961 (Registrar-General's estimate)						...	...	3,770
Number of separate dwellings, 1931 (census)	...					...	...	819
„ „ „ „ 1961	...		...	...	...	...	...	1,310
Rateable value, 1961 1.4.62	...		...	...	...	...	...	£40,397
Product of a penny rate, 1961 1.4.62	...		...	...	...	...	...	£161

Live Births.					Total	Male	Female	Rate
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	56	31	25	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2	
					58	31	27	15.38

Stillbirths.								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					—	—	—	nil

Deaths.								
All causes	...	...	...	...	30	17	13	7.95

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	...	—	—	—				
Other puerperal causes...	...	...						nil

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil

Telephone,
Office: Wellingborough 2446.
Home: Rushden 2810.

Health Department,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.

May, 1962.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the
Borough of Higham Ferrers.**

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present my fourteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1961.

In Section A the vital statistics for the year will be found. These figures are of interest and value but the health of the community cannot be gauged on figures alone as health is a state of well-being of body and mind and thus the healthy person is one whose body and mind are working in harmony. The health of the community depends upon good living, working and social conditions and in the Borough I feel we are well on the way to achieving such. The population figure shows an increase of 60 on the previous year. The death rate 7.9, is considerably lower than the previous year when it was 12.39 per thousand population and it is one of the lowest rates recorded over many years. For the sixth year in succession there were no deaths from puerperal causes. It is indeed pleasing to report that no infant deaths occurred and that also there were no deaths from Tuberculosis. The greatest number of deaths was due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system and were responsible for rather more than 56 per cent of all deaths. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths from Cancer and such deaths accounted for 20 per cent of the total deaths. The Birth rate 15.38 per thousand of population showed a slight increase on the previous year.

The various health services available are given in Section B and the Borough is particularly well catered for. In this section an account is given of the activities of the Old Folks' Committee and from this it will be seen that much is done for the old folks of the Borough.

Details concerning the Sanitary Circumstances of the area will be found in Section C. The Borough receives its water supply from the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board and it will be seen that this supply is to be further augmented by the addition of the Ditchford Water Scheme, which at the time of writing has come into operation. The manufacturers and traders in the Borough, by the installation of pre-treatment tanks at their works should contribute considerably towards the improvement in the crude sewage arriving at the Council's sewage disposal works. It is hoped that when this change has been brought

about, with some further additions to our present works, that eventually a satisfactory final effluent will be obtained.

The introduction of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 should help towards the problem of noise which undoubtedly is detrimental to health, and local authorities in certain circumstances may now be able to take action. Noise can cause much mental distress and discomfort and although we appear to be able to tolerate more noise than our forebears, every effort should be made to save future generations from unnecessary suffering and distress from this cause.

Section D deals with housing and slum clearance and from this will it be seen what activities were carried out during the year and also the fact that more accommodation is being made available for the old persons of the Borough. Improvement grants were made in 13 instances and the re-housing of families from Clearance areas continue.

The inspection and supervision of Food is dealt with in Section E.

Information relating to Infectious Diseases, Vaccinations and Immunisations will be found in Section F. It will be noted from the number of vaccinations carried out under one year and at one year and compared with the number of births during the year that there is still a number of infants not vaccinated. Our figures locally are above the average for the country which is in the region of 50% but we must strive always for 100% protection. This protection is so easily and readily available and has little or no ill-effects in infancy. Cases of infectious diseases during the year were few and the health of the community during the year was satisfactory.

Acknowledgments for information supplied for this report are appended and I am grateful to Mr. Plummer for his help and assistance throughout the year and Miss Pearson for her help in compiling this report. Finally I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and encouragement throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Town Clerk

The County Medical Officer of Health

The Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

The Engineer of the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area—The Borough of Higham Ferrers covers an area of 1,945 acres.

Population—The population figure given by the Registrar-General in his returns for 1961 was 3,770 which is 60 more than the previous year. The natural increase, i.e., number of births compared with deaths, for the year was 18.

Deaths—Thirty deaths were recorded which gives a death rate for the year of 7.95 per 1,000 of population. This is considerably lower than the rate for the previous year which was 12.39. The death rate for England and Wales for 1961 was 12.

A Classification of the causes of death will be found in Table No. 1 in Section H. Once again it will be seen from this table that the commonest cause of death was due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. There were eight deaths from coronary disease or angina and it is interesting to note that six of these deaths occurred in females. There were six deaths from Cancer which is one more than the previous year and two of these deaths were due to malignant neoplasm of the lung or bronchus, both in males. For the fourth year in succession there were no deaths from Tuberculosis. The following table shows a comparison between the death rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and the Borough of Higham Ferrers over the last five years :

Death Rates, 1957-1961

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Higham Ferrers ...	9.48(35)	13.24(49)	7.29(27)	12.39(46)	7.95(30)
Administrative County	10.97	11.17	10.77	10.88	*
England and Wales ...	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0

* *not available.*

Births—The number of live births recorded was 58 as compared with 57 in 1960, thus giving a birth rate of 15.38 per thousand of population. This shows a slight rise on the previous year when it was 15.36. The rate for England and Wales for 1961 was 17.4. The following table shows the birth rate over the past five years for Higham Ferrers compared with the rates for the Administrative County and England and Wales :

Birth Rates, 1957-1961

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Higham Ferrers ...	11.92	13.78	13.78	15.36	15.38
Administrative County ...	17.03	16.95	16.60	17.70	*
England and Wales ...	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4

* *not available*

Stillbirths—No stillbirths were recorded for the year. Last year there was one stillbirth giving a rate of 0.26 per 1,000 population.

Illegitimate Births—Two illegitimate births were recorded giving a rate of 0.53 per 1,000 of population. In 1960 there were also two illegitimate births, the rate again being 0.53 per 1,000 of population.

Infant Mortality—No infant deaths occurred during the year. Last year there was one infant death which gave a rate of 17.54 per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1961 was 21.4 per 1,000 live births.

Neonatal Mortality—There being no infant deaths during the year there were no deaths in this sub-division which concerns infant deaths within the first four weeks of life. A further sub-division is also given by the Registrar-General relating to deaths within the first week of life and here again the rate is Nil. A comparison between the infant mortality rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and the Borough of Higham Ferrers over the past five years is given in the following table :

Death rate under one year per 1,000 live births

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Higham Ferrers ...	22.72(1)	19.60(1)	19.60(1)	17.54(1)	0
Administrative County ...	22.53	19.75	20.20	22.57	*
England and Wales ...	23.0	22.5	22.0	21.7	21.4

* *not available*

Maternal Mortality—For the sixth year in succession no deaths have occurred.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Service—The area is well served by two laboratories, the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the Laboratory attached to Kettering General Hospital, which has a branch at the Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden. Specimens in connection with the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases are sent to these laboratories. Facilities are available at the Northampton Laboratory for the examination of samples of milk, water and ice-cream.

Ambulance Service, Home Nursing and Home Help Service—All these services come under the County Council and the area is well served.

Hospital Accommodation and Out-patient Clinics—These services are supplied by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital—Northampton and Kettering.

Maternity—Maternity Block, Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

Chronic Sick, the aged and old persons in need of care and attention—
The Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

Gynæcological and Children—Wellingborough Hospital.

Acute medical cases, skins and children—Highfield Hospital, Wellingborough.

Tuberculosis—The Rushden House Sanatorium.

Orthopædics—The Manfield Hospital, Northampton.

Infectious Diseases—The Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

The Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden. The following clinics are held at this hospital :

Gynæcological	...	1st and 3rd Monday morning
		2nd and 4th Tuesday morning
Medical	... ..	1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Monday afternoon
Surgical	... ..	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon
		2nd, 4th and 5th Friday morning
E.N.T.	... ..	2nd and 4th Wednesday morning
		1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday afternoon
Eyes	... ..	1st and 3rd Thursday morning

Orthoptist	...	Every Thursday morning and afternoon
Urological	... ..	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon
Physiotherapy	...	Monday afternoons
Psychiatric	...	Every Friday afternoon
Skin	... ..	2nd and 4th Saturday morning
Paediatric	... ..	Wednesday mornings

Infant Welfare Centres—An Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Methodist Church Rooms, High Street, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. The County Council are the responsible authority.

National Assistance Act, 1948—No action was necessary under Section 47 of this act during the year.

Higham Ferrers Old People's Welfare Committee continue to carry out their excellent work amongst the old folk of the Borough. Once again I am grateful to Mrs. W. D. White, Hon. Secretary to this Committee, for information concerning their activities throughout the year. In her annual report she states that the work of the Committee increases each year due to the increasing number of pensioners. The activities cover a very wide field from the providing for the enjoyment of a large number of old people, to the provision of the necessary services in order to keep them active members of the Community. The Committee help old folk with regard to hospital visits, provision of home helps and assistance with supplementary pensions. The Committee sponsors the following activities :

1. *Darby and Joan Club.* This club meets weekly and a bus service is provided.
2. *Chiropody Service.* Clinic patients numbered 279 and domiciliary 114, making a total of 786 treatments. Clinic charges are 7/6 and domiciliary 8/6, the patient paying 3/- of the cost. The County Welfare Committee pay 75% of the costs which helps considerably the local committee's finances.
3. *Hospital Visits.* Two members of the committee visit monthly the Park Hospital where some 14 Old Folk from the Borough are patients.
4. *Handicrafts.* The object is to provide a leisure time activity. This scheme has met with great success.
5. *Annual Holiday.* 14 pensioners visited Clacton under the County sponsored scheme in May. 66 visited Folkestone in September under a local scheme.
6. *Meals Service.* Twice weekly meals are provided for some 13 old folk living alone.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply—The Borough receives its water supply from the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board. The main sources of supply of this board are Sywell reservoir with a capacity of 236,000,000 gallons, and wells sunk in the Nene river gravels at Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston, which yield approximately 250,000 gallons per day. The supply of this board will be further increased when the Ditchford scheme is completed and brought into use. Work on this scheme proceeded under the direction of the Board's consultants during the year. Pumping and gravity mains were completed and by December 1961, the new water tower at Manton Spinney was practically completed. The new treatment works construction was completed and the installation of pumps and treatment plant was in progress during the latter part of December, 1961. The anticipated commencing date is late March, 1962.

Quality of Water—Chemical analysis of samples of water were taken during the year and the results of two of these samples were as follows :

	<i>Treated Water Sywell</i>					<i>Treated Water Wollaston</i>	
	<i>Works, 15th June, 1961</i>					<i>Works, 15th June, 1961</i>	
<i>Physical Characters :</i>	Good					Very slight deposit, otherwise good	
<i>Reaction :</i>	pH 7.2		pH 7.1	
<i>The sample contained :</i>						<i>Sywell</i>	<i>Wollaston</i>
						<i>Parts per</i>	<i>100,000</i>
Chloride	2.6	3.8	
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0200	0.0518	
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0078	0.0078	
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C.	0.0990	0.0891	
Nitrates (expressed as nitrogen)	0.35	absent	
Nitrites	absent	absent	
Poisonous metals	absent	absent	
Calcium	7.15	16.75	
Magnesium	0.55	0.76	
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	14.25	25.85	
<i>Hardness :</i> Total	18.6	32.2	
Permanent	9.7	11.8	
Temporary	8.9	20.4	

	<i>Sywell</i>	<i>Wollaston</i>
<i>Microscopic examination</i>		
<i>of deposit</i>	None	mineral matter and a little organic debris
<i>Bacteriological examination :</i>	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	
No. of micro-organ- isms developing at 37°C	Nil	Nil
No. of micro-organ- isms developing at 21°C	Nil	Nil

The results obtained indicate that the Sywell water is fairly hard and the Wollaston sample hard, but both as evidenced by samples analysed, fit for drinking purposes.

Treatment—All water sold by the Board is filtered and chlorinated.

Water Samples—27 samples were taken in the Borough during the year and the results were as follows :

<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Very Unsatisfactory</i>
25	1	1

The one unsatisfactory sample was taken from a new main at Roland Way. After the necessary treatment further samples proved satisfactory.

Water Consumption—The following are the combined figures for Higham Ferrers and Rushden :

			<i>gallons</i>
Total consumption, 1961	...	...	249,274,000
Average per day	...	...	691,113
Domestic Use	...	...	202,730,000
Average per day	...	...	555,424
Trade Use	...	...	46,544,000
Average per day	...	...	127,517
Consumption/Head/Day			
Domestic	...	...	26.43
Trade	...	...	6.1
Population basis	...	...	21,000

Piped Water Supply—All houses in the Borough have a piped water supply. A few houses in outlying districts are without a piped supply. One Council house and 35 private houses were connected to towns mains during the year.

Rainfall—The following is a record of the rainfall over the last nine years at Rushden and Sywell :

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Rushden ...	18.64	28.44	18.69	22.83	23.72	26.85	18.4	31.64	18.90
Sywell ...	17.10	27.26	17.92	25.23	24.51	30.54	20.5	33.74	20.80

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage—A full description of the works was given in last year’s Annual Report. They are modern works and were constructed in 1954. Due to strong Trade Wastes and the fact that the crude sewage contains about 50% of these wastes, the final effluent from these works is not satisfactory. The Council has endeavoured in many ways to try and rectify this and as reported last year installed a pilot filtration plant to filter the final effluent. This unfortunately proved unsuccessful and to alleviate the problem alumino ferric at a dosage rate of approximately 100 p.p.m. was tried in the final humus tanks and this has given reasonably good results. Once again the Manufacturers have been pressed to install pre-treatment tanks at their premises and at the end of the year three of the larger firms had substantially completed these and should come into operation early in 1962. Two further firms have given instructions to builders to proceed, one small firm has constructed a tank but this is not in operation yet, and the other firms are obtaining builders’ estimates. A further firm is negotiating for the purchase of a plot of land adjoining its premises on which to construct pre-treatment tanks.

The Council have purchased a cesspool emptier to assist in the emptying of the sludge from these pre-treatment tanks.

Eventually it is hoped that the strength of the crude sewage arriving at the works will be much reduced as a result of pre-treatment at the different manufacturing premises. It will then be necessary to keep the sewage disposal works under observation to see if a satisfactory final effluent can be produced and if not further works will have to be carried out to the plant in order to obtain a satisfactory final effluent which goes into the River Nene.

Chemical analysis of crude sewage and final effluent treated with alumino ferric taken during the year gave the following results :

					<i>Parts per million</i>	
					<i>Crude</i>	<i>Final</i>
					<i>Sewage</i>	<i>Effluent</i>
pH Value	...	...	...	...	6.8	
Suspended solids dried at 105°C	...			...	560.0	140.00
Suspended solids ashed at 600°C	...			...	210.0	20.00
Chlorides as Chlorine	...	...		...	210.0	221.00
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...			...	3,000.0	75.0

Free and Saline Ammonia as Nitrogen	31.8	3.1
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen ...	4.4	3.1
Nitrites as Nitrogen	—	0.65
Nitrates as Nitrogen	—	19.60
Permanganate volume (4 hours) ...	1,050.0	154.0
B.O.D. in 5 days at 20°C	940.0	31.0

Closet Accommodation—With the exception of a few outlying premises all houses in the Borough are connected to the main sewer.

Disinfection—Houses are disinfected as requested following cases of the more serious infectious diseases.

Eradication of Bed Bugs—No action was necessary. This would appear to be a thing of the past.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—The following is a summary of work carried out during the year :

Sewage works	16 treatments
Sewers	5 treatments
Refuse Tip	18 treatments
Business premises	8 treatments
Private houses	4 treatments

Movable Dwellings—The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960—Three visits to sites made during the year.

Disinfestation—Complaints referring to wasp infestation dealt with.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960—Two complaints were received during the year and investigated. Now that the Act makes noise in certain instances a Statutory Nuisance, action can be taken by local authorities to abate this nuisance and so help those who in the past had to suffer such conditions with no redress. We live in a noisy age which is detrimental to health and so action should be taken whenever possible to abate noise nuisances.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The Council's building programme for 1961 consisted of the erection of 6 old person's bungalows and 6 one-bedroom flats. These dwellings were built on the Elizabeth Way Estate.

Thirteen families comprising 31 persons were re-housed from confirmed clearance areas. Thirty-one houses in clearance areas were demolished. Official representations were made concerning houses in Spring Gardens last year and these were the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order which was confirmed in respect of 21 houses. An additional 4 houses are being purchased by agreement. The Council are proceeding to re-house persons from the Spring Gardens area, 7 families still remain to be re-housed. A further survey of unfit properties has been carried out and it is hoped to commence on these early in the New Year.

Improvement Grants—Improvement grants have been approved in respect of 13 houses.

Private Development—Building has proceeded on two estates together with infilling in various parts of the town. 34 houses were constructed during the year.

Housing Applications—There were 39 applicants on the housing list at the end of the year. This shows a fall of 26 on the number at the end of the previous year. An analysis of these applications gives the following information :

Couples with two or more children	...	...	14
Couples with one child	...	...	9
Couples with no children	...	...	7
Elderly or incapacitated couples	...	...	4
Widows or widowers	...	...	5
			<hr/>
			39
			<hr/>

Type of accommodation applied for :

Bungalow or flat, one bedroom	...	...	5
Bungalow or flat, two bedrooms	...	...	6
House, two bedrooms	...	...	10
House, three bedrooms	...	...	17
House, four bedrooms	...	...	1
			<hr/> 39 <hr/>
Applicants resident in Higham Ferrers			... 29
Applicants resident outside Higham Ferrers			... 10
			<hr/> 39 <hr/>
Applicants who are owner-occupiers			... 3
Applicants living in rooms			... 7
Other applicants			... 29
			<hr/> 39 <hr/>

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises—In table No. 2 in Section H will be found a summary of inspections and visits made by the Public Health Inspector. It will be seen that 25 visits were made to food premises. Such visits are very necessary to maintain a high standard of hygiene.

Unsound food surrendered :

Corned Beef	...	...	...	24 lbs.
Cooked ham	...	...	...	25 lbs. 18 ozs.
Beef	...	...	...	12 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	10 lbs.
Peach pie filling	...	...	...	7 lbs. 12. ozs.
Plums	...	...	...	46 lbs.

Milk Supply—Milk supplies to the Borough are from outside. There are two pasteurisation plants situated in neighbouring authorities. Frequent samples of milk are taken by the Public Health Inspectors for their authorities but it is still my opinion that samples of milk should be taken in the Borough, as this Council is responsible for milk distributed in its area.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream—Twelve premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. All ice-cream sold in the area is pre-packed. It is my opinion that samples should be taken in the area for examination during the year.

Slaughterhouses—There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Meat for human consumption is imported from neighbouring authorities. Here one hundred per cent inspection of all meat is carried out.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Smallpox—The country was startled by the occurrence of cases of imported Smallpox at the end of the year. In the area where cases occurred the panic caused amongst the people was quite evident by the length of the vaccination queues at the open clinics. All this could be avoided if parents saw to it that their children were vaccinated in infancy and re-vaccinations kept up-to-date. In infancy the risk of complications is small provided care is taken not to vaccinate any children with eczema or skin lesions and the risk of post vaccinal encephalitis rises with the age of primary vaccination. Thus primary vaccination in the adult is not without danger.

Vaccination—The following vaccinations were carried out during the year :

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 yrs. or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary ...	27	11	9	4	7	58
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	—	5	5
						<hr/> 63 <hr/>

The figures for the previous year were :

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 yrs. or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary ...	21	11	4	3	4	43
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	2	11	13
						<hr/> 56 <hr/>

A slight increase in the figures for the year is noted.

Diphtheria—Seventeen years have now passed since the last case of Diphtheria occurred in the Borough.

Diphtheria Immunisation—The following table shows the number of children in the Borough who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1961 :

Age at 31.12.61 ... i.e. Born in Year ...	Under					5 to 9 1952- 1956	10 to 14 1947- 1951	Total under 15
	1 1961	1 1960	2 1959	3 1958	4 1957			
Number Immunised	6	50	43	49	34	229	289	700

The following immunisations were carried out during the year :

	<i>Under</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10-14</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
Diphtheria									
Immunisation only	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	14
Combined Diphtheria									
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	19
Triple	36	4	3	3	—	5	1	52	12
Total	37	4	4	4	—	6	1	56	45

Whooping Cough only	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--

Pneumonia—One case was notified compared with five in the previous year.

Erysipelas—One case occurred compared with two in the previous year.

Measles—Twelve cases were notified. In the previous year there were 55 cases.

Whooping Cough—One case occurred. There were no cases in the previous year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—No cases occurred.

Poliomyelitis—It is three years since a case occurred in the Borough.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination—The following vaccinations were carried out during the year :

									15	<i>Third injs.</i>	
<i>Under</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10-14</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>or over</i>	<i>All ages</i>	<i>Fourth injs.</i>
12	37	3	1	1	1	1	4	59	33	384	366

The campaign waged against this disease has shown great success.

Tuberculosis—One new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during the year compared with two in the previous year. One case was admitted to the Rushden House Sanatorium. No cases were discharged during the year.

The following table shows the number of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis over the last twelve years :

		1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
New cases	...	1 (M)	3 (1 M)	<i>nil</i>	4 (1 M)	<i>nil</i>	2 (F)
Deaths	...	1 (M)	1 (M)	1 (M)	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>

		1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
New cases	...	1 (M)	1 (F)	1 (M)	2 (1 M)	1 (F)
Deaths	...	1 (F)	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis register at the end of the year was as follows :

					<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	8	7	15
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		...	...	...	1	2	3
							<hr/> 18 <hr/>

The After-Care Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area.

Dysentery—No cases were notified. It is five years since a case was notified.

Food Poisoning—No cases have been notified for the past four years.

Epidemic Diarrhoea and Vomiting—Outbreaks of diarrhoea occurred during the year and stool tests all proved negative for pathogenic bacteria. Once again cases were obviously of virus origin. This condition has become very common in recent years and there appears to be little that we can do to prevent its spread. Although not a serious disease it is a very inconvenient one.

SECTION G.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

There are 36 factories on the register and 65 visits were made during the year. Seven defects were found and remedied as a result of these visits.

The number of Outworkers on the August list was 28.

No complaints were received concerning the carrying out of Outwork (S110 and 111).

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1961.

TABLE NO. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1961.

<i>Causes of Death</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES						17	13	30

TABLE No. 2.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Housing						
Complaints received ...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Inspections under the Public Health Acts :						
(a) Complaints ...	...	...	...	...	...	47
(b) Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Notice from builders	...	...	...	...	...	40
(d) Others	...	...	...	...	...	8
Re-inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	41
Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	38
Visits re housing applications	...	...	...	...	...	30
Visits re infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2
Meat and Food						
Visits to foodshops	...	...	...	...	...	25
Visits to bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories						
Visits to factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	65
Visits to other factories	...	...	...	...	...	0
Miscellaneous						
Visits re Land Charges Act	...	...	...	...	...	12
Visits under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	...	...	...	...	...	80
Visits to refuse tip	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to sewage works	...	...	...	...	...	80
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	15
Visits for interviews	...	...	...	...	...	35
Interviews at office	...	...	...	...	...	115
Water tests of drains carried out	...	...	...	...	...	123
Visits re applications for improvements grants	...	...	...	...	...	50
Revisits re improvement grants	...	...	...	...	...	35
Visits to caravan sites, 7 movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	0
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	2
National Insurance Act	...	...	...	...	...	1

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

Housing						
Repairs to water services	...	...	...	...	...	14
Rainwater gutters and/or downpipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	30
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Additional W.C's. provided	...	...	...	...	...	8
Drains repaired or altered	...	...	...	...	...	40
Yard pavings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
Walls repaired internally	...	...	...	...	...	12
Flushing cisterns to W.C's. repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Hot water systems provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	13
Rooms redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	0
Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	0
Dampness to walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sink wastepipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	30
Trapdoors provided	...	...	...	...	...	0
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10

TABLE NO. 2—*continued*.

Staircases repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Walls repaired externally	...	...	...	...	...	10
Foodstores provided ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Manholes constructed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Painting (externally)	...	...	...	...	...	0
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sink waste channels repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6

Notices Served

Public Health Act (Informal)	...	...	...	...	25
Factories Act, 1937 ...	...	...	...	...	3

Infectious Diseases

Rooms disinfected	2
Articles of bedding destroyed	0

Pet Animal Act, 1951

Licences issued	1
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Food Premises in the Borough

Grocery and Provisions	6
General shops	11
Fish shops (wet and fried)	1
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Cake shops	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	0
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	2
Hotels ...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	5
Clubs ...	...	...	...	...	3

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act

For the sale of ice-cream ...	...	...	...	...	13
For the manufacture of sausages, etc.	...	...	...	...	3

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Licences issued	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	3

TABLE No. 3.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1961.

<i>Disease</i>	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles ...	—	1	4	4	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	12
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1	1	4	5	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	15

TABLE NO. 4.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1961.

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	<i>All Ages</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Measles ...	—	1	—	2	2	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	12	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	—	2	—	2	2	4	2	—	1	—	1	1	15	—	1

TABLE NO. 5.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1961.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1961 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
		No.	Rate	Under One Year No.	Rate	All Ages No.	Rate
1891	1,810	—	—	—	—	—	—
1892	1,810	51	28.1	7	137.0	27	14.9
1893	2,000	54	27.0	6	111.0	34	17.0
1894	2,000	65	32.5	12	184.0	37	18.5
1895	2,000	64	32.0	3	47.0	30	15.0
1896	2,000	56	28.0	6	107.0	22	11.0
1897	2,000	67	33.5	5	75.0	31	15.5
1898	2,000	74	37.0	9	121.0	27	13.5
1899	2,500	62	24.8	11	177.0	25	10.0
1900	2,540	69	27.1	9	130.0	31	12.2
1901	2,540	79	31.1	3	37.9	26	10.2
1902	2,540	56	22.0	3	53.5	26	10.2
1903	2,540	59	23.2	6	101.7	27	10.6
1904	2,540	61	24.0	4	65.6	22	8.6
1905	2,794	48	17.2	5	104.1	28	9.6
1906	2,884	49	16.9	3	61.2	26	8.6
1907	2,920	51	17.4	5	98.0	25	7.8
1908	2,920	63	21.5	2	31.7	29	9.0
1909	2,920	56	19.1	5	89.3	27	9.2
1910	2,920	42	14.3	1	23.8	24	8.2
1911	2,726	53	19.4	2	37.7	25	9.1
1912	2,726	37	13.5	3	81.0	21	7.7
1913	2,776	56	20.1	5	89.2	34	12.2
1914	2,776	53	19.0	3	56.8	28	10.0
1915	2,849	51	18.3	4	78.4	37	12.9
1916	2,769	46	15.2	6	130.4	31	11.1
1917	2,838	45	15.8	3	66.6	30	11.7
1918	2,987	36	12.0	3	83.3	38	14.2
1919	2,863	44	14.7	2	45.5	28	9.7
1920	2,977	69	23.1	9	130.4	35	11.7
1921	2,912	47	16.1	2	42.5	32	10.9
1922	2,929	40	13.6	5	125.0	27	9.2
1923	2,944	54	18.3	2	37.0	36	12.2
1924	2,965	42	14.1	2	47.6	36	12.1
1925	2,998	35	11.6	3	85.7	17	5.6
1926	3,091	37	11.9	3	81.0	23	7.4
1927	3,120	39	12.1	6	153.0	43	13.7
1928	3,208	43	13.0	0	0.0	27	8.4
1929	3,054	43	14.7	3	69.0	23	7.3
1930	3,054	41	13.4	2	48.7	31	10.1
1931	2,950	30	10.1	2	66.0	32	10.8
1932	2,938	25	8.5	2	80.0	39	13.2
1933	2,944	42	14.2	1	23.8	33	11.2
1934	2,946	28	9.5	1	35.0	28	9.5
1935	2,987	31	10.4	0	0.0	37	12.4
1936	3,003	43	14.3	1	23.2	30	10.0
1937	3,076	49	15.9	2	40.8	34	11.0
1938	3,120	36	11.5	1	27.7	35	11.2
1939	3,145	27	8.6	0	0.0	53	16.5
1940	3,172	40	12.6	0	0.0	39	12.3
1941	3,690	45	12.5	1	22.2	42	11.6
1942	3,528	55	15.5	2	36.3	28	7.9
1943	3,366	52	15.4	1	19.2	39	11.3
1944	3,298	60	18.2	1	16.7	36	10.9
1945	3,268	71	21.7	2	28.2	46	14.1
1946	3,406	62	18.2	1	16.12	45	13.21
1947	3,528	80	22.67	3	37.50	48	13.60
1948	3,599	67	18.61	0	0.0	34	9.44
1949	3,644	60	16.46	2	33.33	40	10.97
1950	3,645	63	17.28	1	15.87	51	13.99
1951	3,661	51	13.93	0	0.0	40	10.92
1952	3,661	65	17.75	1	15.38	32	8.74
1953	3,648	58	15.89	3	51.72	39	10.69
1954	3,670	55	14.98	1	18.18	27	7.35
1955	3,660	51	13.93	2	39.21	46	12.56
1956	3,650	61	16.71	0	0.0	38	10.41
1957	3,690	44	11.92	1	22.72	35	9.48
1958	3,700	51	13.78	1	19.60	49	13.24
1959	3,700	51	13.78	1	19.60	27	7.29
1960	3,710	57	15.36	1	17.54	46	12.39
1961	3,770	58	15.38	0	0.0	30	7.95

TABLE NO. 7.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937
for the year, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	30	55	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	3	—	—
TOTAL ...	36	65	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	7	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecu- tions</i>
Wearing Apparel-making	16	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	28	—	—	—	—	—

